

NEWSLETTER 28 February 2023

Dates for your Diary

MAR	Thu	2	Music/Italian	Fri	3	Swimming
	Wed	8	Library	Thu	9	Dr Rob Gordon 10am
	Thu	9	Music/Italian	Fri	10	Swimming
	Mon	13	Labour Day NO SCHOOL	Wed	15	NAPLAN - Writing
	Thu	16	Italian/Music	Thu	16	MSO excursion
	Fri	17	NAPLAN - Reading	Fri	17	Swimming
	Mon	20	NAPLAN - Language Conventions	Tue	21	Cooking Grade 5/6
	Tue	21	School Council 6:30pm	Wed	22	Library
	Thu	23	Music/Italian	Fri	24	NAPLAN - Numeracy
	Fri	24	Swimming	Mon	27	Art
	Thu	30	Music/Italian	Fri	31	Swimming

Dear Parents,

Can you please note the following:

Student of the Week

Our congratulations go to the following who have recently received a Student of the Week award:

Kara - determination displayed in problem solving during maths

Archie - identifying different feelings for the growth unit

Lily - being a respectful and responsible learner

Oscar - being a focussed writer

Murphy - effort displayed in preparation for our debate

Sally- displaying a positive attitude to her learning



Mathematics

All grades are currently looking at *Location and Transformation* as their measurement strand within Mathematics. But what does this mean for your child? This area of the curriculum covers aspects such as:

Foundation - using positional language (behind, beside, in front) relating to themselves

Grade 1 - interpret a simple diagram or picture to describe the position of an object.

Grade 2 - draw an informal map or sketch to provide directions

Grade 3 - *Transformations* - identifying symmetry in *natural* and *constructed* environments

Grade 4 - *Transformations* - creating symmetrical patterns, pictures and shapes with and without digital technologies.

Grade 5 - creating simple aerial maps inclusive of a grid reference system to locate features and describe routes

Grade 6 - *Transformations* - identifying and describing simple transformations in the Cartesian plane

If you are interested in what the curriculum covers at any grade level, on any domain, don't hesitate to ask.

School Council

School Council met last Tuesday evening and conducted the election of Office Bearers for this year. I am pleased to report that Jo Lambert has been re-elected as our President, Geoff Clancy as our Vice President and Justine Nicholls as our Secretary. Thank you very much to each of these parents for taking on this responsibility.

We also discussed our new toilet facilities (that hopefully will be commencing next term) and camps.

MSO Performance

On Thursday 16 March we will be joining with the other Cluster schools for a performance from the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in Whitfield. If you would like to join us please let me know - we will be leaving Greta around 10:30am and will be back around 2pm. Your Local Excursions permission form will cover this activity.

Labour Day - No school

Monday 13 March is Labour Day in Victoria. Given this is a public Holiday there will be no school on this day.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is being conducted earlier than usual this year. There is a two week period in March in which schools can select when they will carry out the four assessments - Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy. This assessment tool is for students across Australia in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9. Please have a look at the calendar above to see when we have chosen to conduct these tests so you can endeavour to have your child here on those dates. There is not a lot of room for makeup dates. Shortly our Grade 3 and 5 students will participate in a practice NAPLAN test in order for them to become familiar with the online format of the program. If you would like any further information about NAPLAN please don't hesitate to contact me.

Below is a hyperlink to the NAPLAN practice site that all parents have access to should you wish your child to have a look at it.

<https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site>

Dr Rob Gordon

Recently you would have received an email from us regarding a fantastic opportunity for parents to come to here to listen to Dr Rob Gordon speak about trauma (e.g. Bushfires, Covid), recovery and resilience. This will be on Thursday 9 March at 10am and only goes for an hour. Having heard him speak before, I can highly recommend him. He has a wealth of knowledge that is so relevant to all of

us, so please make every effort to attend if possible. If you'd like any further information please don't hesitate to contact me.

Can you please let us know as soon as possible if you'll be attending.

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)

As I mentioned at our Family BBQ, we have a new coordinator for our OSHC program - Ms Elena DeFazio. Welcome Elena to Greta Valley. At the same time, thank you to Anna Stevenson for all her time and efforts over the last two years coordinating this program. Much appreciated Anna!

Elena's phone number is at the top of the newsletter if you are wanting to book your child(ren) into OSHC. Please let both Elena and the school know and bookings need to be made prior to 2pm.

Outdoor Education School Day

Our Grade 3-6 students from across the cluster had a terrific time last Thursday at the Outdoor Education School. Here they participated in a variety of activities such as raft building, cubby building and the climbing tower.

Family BBQ

Thank you very much to all the families who came along to our Family BBQ recently. A fabulous evening was had by all and once again the teachers took out the Water Fight Championships. You're going to have to lift your game kids to defeat us!

And Finally ...

With February almost over, we thought it would be a great opportunity to bring to your awareness that March is *International Small Pet Awareness Month*. Research has shown that our smaller feathered and furred friends are often injured, or worse killed, due to their small stature. These innocent harmless creatures are naturally inquisitive and can often be found in dangerous places such as showers and have even been known to get under your feet when you're getting dressed. Please please remember our dear small friends in order to prevent horrific injuries, such as blindness, being inflicted upon these little treasures.

Editor's Note - I know nothing and as such can't be held responsible for the contents!!!!



Howard Gibson
Principal

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MARC LIBRARY TERM 1 2023

Hello All,

What a wonderful start to the year it has been! Thank you for the warm welcome from staff, students and parents alike. I feel so lucky to be teaching library in the beautiful King Valley region. The students have been on their best behaviour! Such an amazing bunch – engaged, interested and ready to learn.

So great to meet and connect with some of you at the Welcome BBQ. I got totally drenched but it was such a fun evening!

This term, our focus is mainly on getting to know each other. I will be reading some of my favourite books and the students will be sharing their favourites too.

We will be discussing the similarities and differences between books and making text connections :-

Text to Self (connecting a text with your life experiences)

Text to Text (connecting a text with another text)

Text to World (connecting a text with real world experiences)

Look out for a new display coming soon....'There are a MINION reasons to read a book!'

Please encourage your child to read as much as possible, as often as possible. Make the time to chat about the books they bring home to create a really positive 'reading culture'.

In the words of a very famous author, Dr. Suess...."The more you **read**, the more you will **know**, the more you **learn**, the more places you'll **go**!

Students can borrow up to three books. Please bring a bag and remember to return each fortnight. Library at Greta Valley is on the even weeks (2,4,6,8,10). If you wish to return books earlier (to make remembering a lot easier) please place them in the library tub provided at school. If a longer book/chapter book has been borrowed, just let me know you need to re-borrow.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions/comments.

I'd love to hear from you.

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Thanks so much and HAPPY READING!!

Vanichya Contessa / Mrs. C

